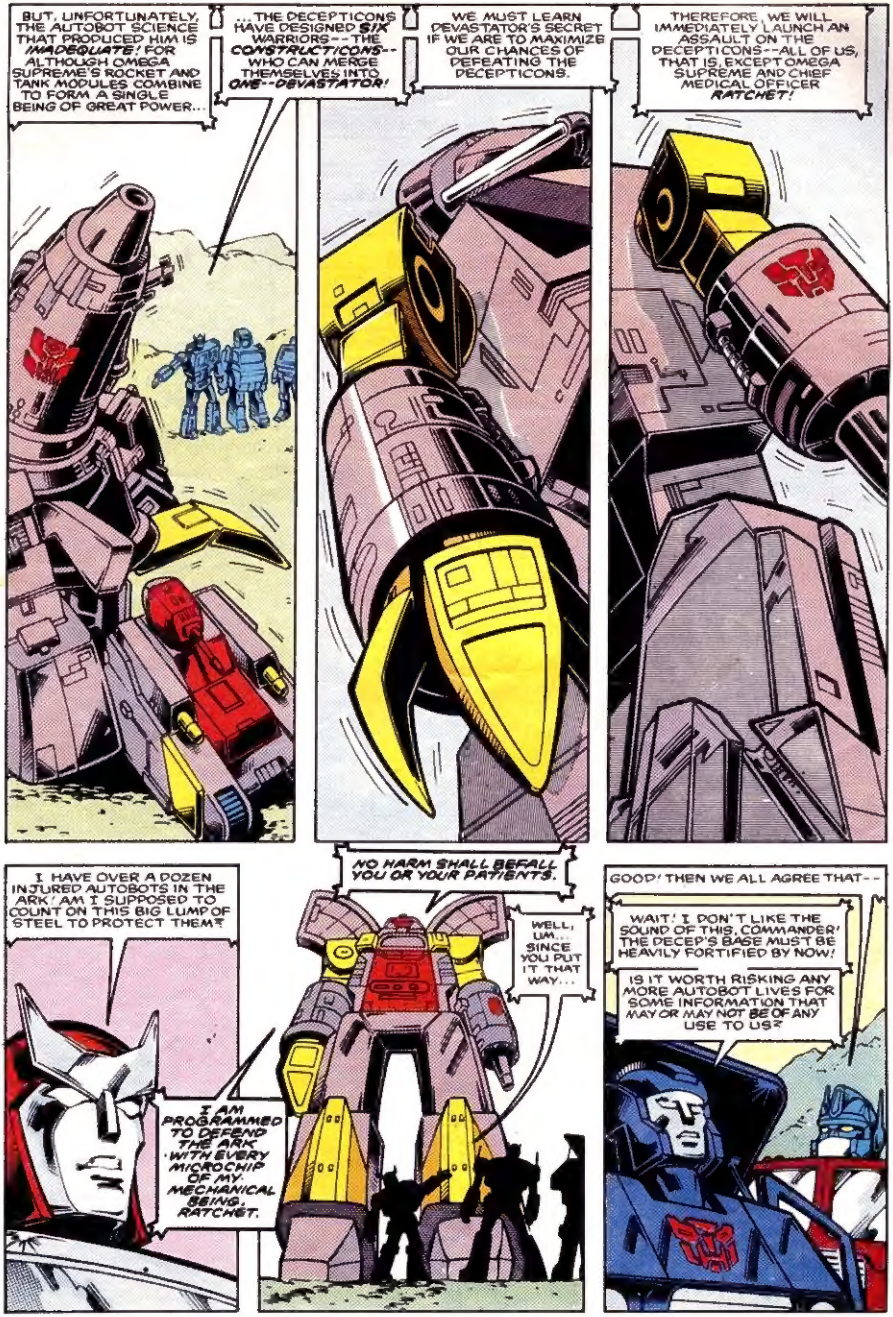
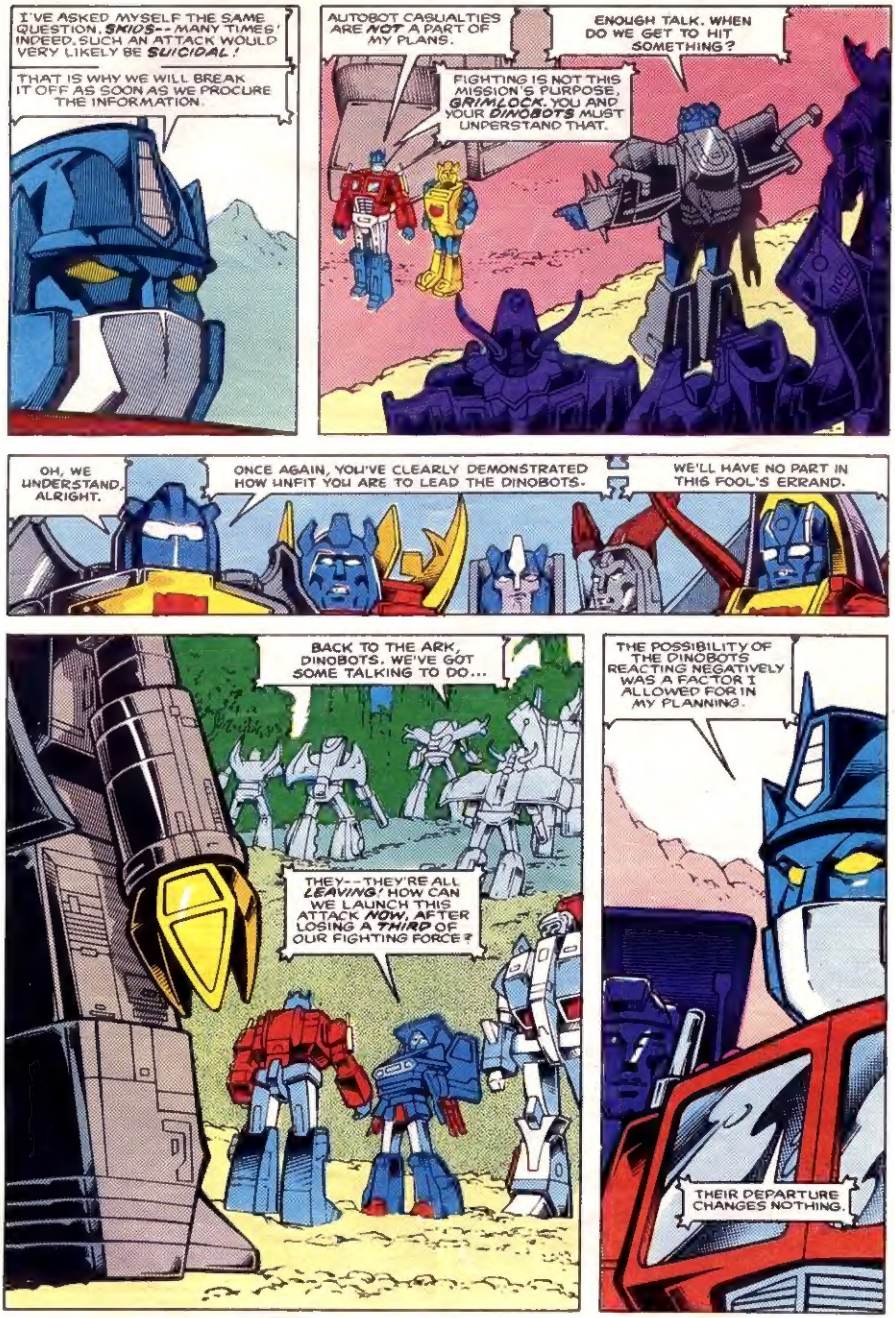
MARVEL
FREE SPECIAL TEAMS CHARACTER CARD INSIDE!
19th Jul. 86
No.70 30p
THE TRANSFORMERS™
HEROIC AUTOBOT
AUTOBOTS — ATTACK!

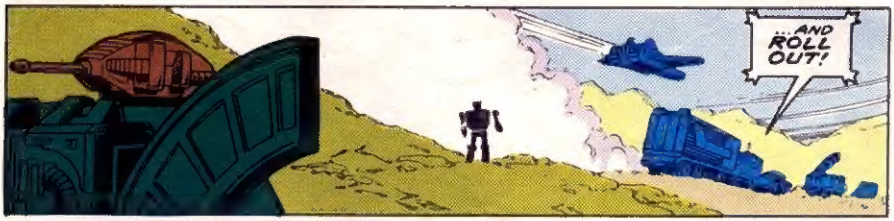
COMMAND PERFORMANCES!
A STAN LEE PRESENTATION
MOUNT SAINT HILARY, OREGON...
BEHOLD, AUTOBOTS-- OMEGA SUPREME!
ENGINEERED BY GRAPPLE*, PROGRAMMED FOR LIFE BY MY CREATION MATRIX, HE IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT OUR CRIPPLED SPACESHIP, THE ARK, FROM DECEPTICON ATTACK--
--TO BE OUR UNBREACHABLE LAST LINE OF DEFENSE!
UM, IN THEORY, OPTIMUS PRIME, ONLY IN THEORY...
YOU ARE OUR CHIEF ARCHITECT, GRAPPLE-- I AM CONFIDENT OMEGA SUPREME WILL DO EXACTLY WHAT YOU BUILT HIM TO DO.
* BEGINNING IN TRANSFORMERS #15, BUT ALL YOU READERS WITH LARGE MEMORY BANKS ALREADY REALIZED THAT!

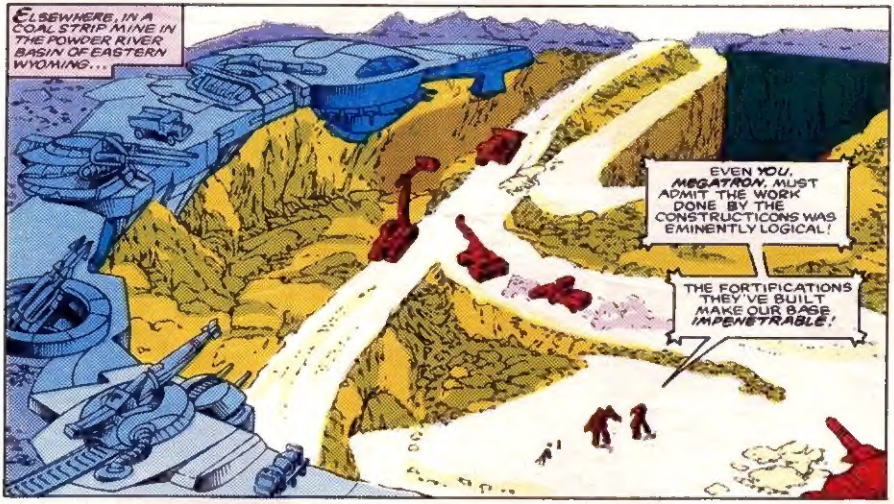
BOB BUDIANSKY WRITER • DON PERLIN PENCILS • IAN AKIN & BRIAN GARVEY INKERS • JANICE CHIANG LETTERER • MEL YOMTOV COLOUR • MICHAEL CARLIN EDITOR • JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

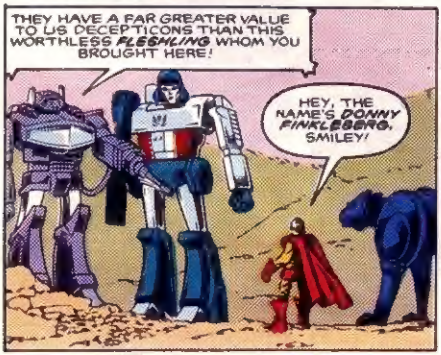

BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, THE AUTOBOT SCIENCE THAT PRODUCED HIM IS *INADEQUATE!* FOR ALTHOUGH OMEGA SUPREME'S ROCKET AND TANK MODULES COMBINE TO FORM A SINGLE BEING OF GREAT POWER...
...THE DECEPTICONS HAVE DESIGNED *SIX* WARRIORS--THE *CONSTRUCTICONS*--WHO CAN MERGE THEMSELVES INTO *ONE*--*DEVASTATOR!*
WE MUST LEARN DEVASTATOR'S SECRET IF WE ARE TO MAXIMIZE OUR CHANCES OF DEFEATING THE DECEPTICONS.
THEREFORE, WE WILL IMMEDIATELY LAUNCH AN ASSAULT ON THE DECEPTICONS--ALL OF US, THAT IS, EXCEPT OMEGA SUPREME AND CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER *RATCHET!*
I HAVE OVER A DOZEN INJURED AUTOBOTS IN THE ARK. AM I SUPPOSED TO COUNT ON THIS BIG LUMP OF STEEL TO PROTECT THEM?
I AM PROGRAMMED TO DEFEND THE ARK WITH EVERY MICROCHIP OF MY MECHANICAL BEING, RATCHET.
NO HARM SHALL BEFALL YOU OR YOUR PATIENTS.
WELL, UM... SINCE YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
GOOD! THEN WE ALL AGREE THAT--
WAIT! I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THIS, COMMANDER! THE DECEP'S BASE MUST BE HEAVILY FORTIFIED BY NOW!
IS IT WORTH RISKING ANY MORE AUTOBOT LIVES FOR SOME INFORMATION THAT MAY OR MAY NOT BE OF ANY USE TO US?


I'VE ASKED MYSELF THE SAME QUESTION, SKIDS-- MANY TIMES! INDEED, SUCH AN ATTACK WOULD VERY LIKELY BE SUICIDAL!
THAT IS WHY WE WILL BREAK IT OFF AS SOON AS WE PROCURE THE INFORMATION.
AUTOBOT CASUALTIES ARE NOT A PART OF MY PLANS.
ENOUGH TALK. WHEN DO WE GET TO HIT SOMETHING?
FIGHTING IS NOT THIS MISSION'S PURPOSE, GRIMLOCK. YOU AND YOUR DINOBOTS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT.
OH, WE UNDERSTAND, ALRIGHT.
ONCE AGAIN, YOU'VE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED HOW UNFIT YOU ARE TO LEAD THE DINOBOTS.
WE'LL HAVE NO PART IN THIS FOOL'S ERRAND.
BACK TO THE ARK, DINOBOTS. WE'VE GOT SOME TALKING TO DO...
THEY--THEY'RE ALL LEAVING! HOW CAN WE LAUNCH THIS ATTACK NOW, AFTER LOSING A THIRD OF OUR FIGHTING FORCE?
THE POSSIBILITY OF THE DINOBOTS REACTING NEGATIVELY WAS A FACTOR I ALLOWED FOR IN MY PLANNING.
THEIR DEPARTURE CHANGES NOTHING.

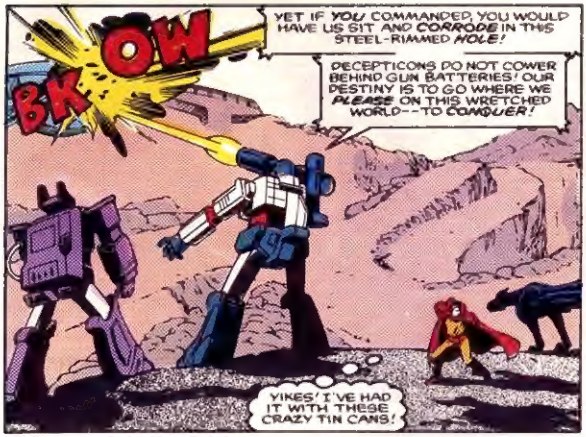
AUTOBOTS, TRANSFORM...


...AND ROLL OUT!


ELSEWHERE, IN A COAL STRIP MINE IN THE POWDER RIVER BASIN OF EASTERN WYOMING...
EVEN YOU, MEGATRON, MUST ADMIT THE WORK DONE BY THE CONSTRUCTICONS WAS EMINENTLY LOGICAL!
THE FORTIFICATIONS THEY'VE BUILT MAKE OUR BASE IMPENETRABLE!

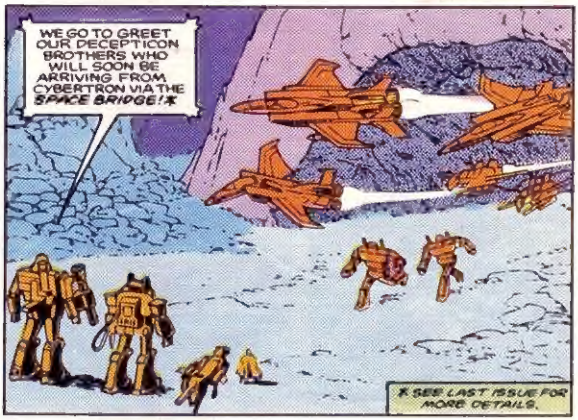

THEY HAVE A FAR GREATER VALUE TO US DECEPTICONS THAN THIS WORTHLESS FLESHLING WHOM YOU BROUGHT HERE!
HEY, THE NAME'S DONNY FINKLEBERG, SMILEY!

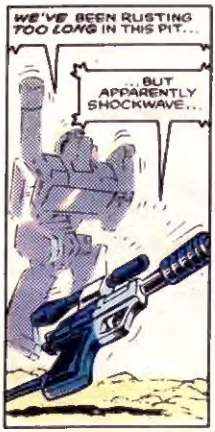
SHOCKWAVE, YOU UNDERESTIMATE THE VALUE OF HAVING THIS FLESHLING CLAIM TO BE ROBOT-MASTER, CONTROLLER OF ALL TRANSFORMERS, CONVINCING THE REST OF HIS KIND THAT AUTOBOTS ARE AS MUCH A MENACE TO THEM AS WE ARE!
IF IT HUMOURS YOU TO LET HUM LIVE, THEN SO BE IT. HIS PRESENCE IS BUT ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF HOW UNFIT YOU ARE TO COMMAND.


BK
OW
YET IF YOU COMMANDED, YOU WOULD HAVE US SIT AND CORRODE IN THIS STEEL-RIMMED HOLE!
DECEPTICONS DO NOT COWER BEHIND GUN BATTERIES! OUR DESTINY IS TO GO WHERE WE PLEASE ON THIS WRETCHED WORLD--TO CONQUER!
YIKES! I'VE HAD IT WITH THESE CRAZY TIN CANS!

I'VE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE... WARN THE AUTOBOTS OF WHAT THESE GUYS ARE UP TO-- BUT HOW WITH THIS WIRE-HEADED WATCHDOG RAVAGE BREATHING DOWN MY NECK?!

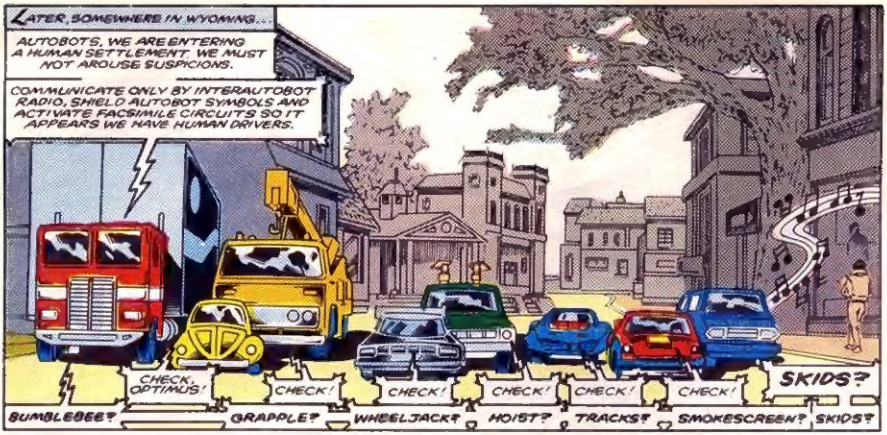
STARSCREAM, SKYWARP, THUNDERCRACKER, LASERBEAK, BUZZSAW, FRENZY, RUMBLE-- TO ME!


WE GO TO GREET OUR DECEPTICON BROTHERS WHO WILL SOON BE ARRIVING FROM CYBERTRON VIA THE SPACE BRIDGE!*
* SEE LAST ISSUE FOR MORE DETAILS.

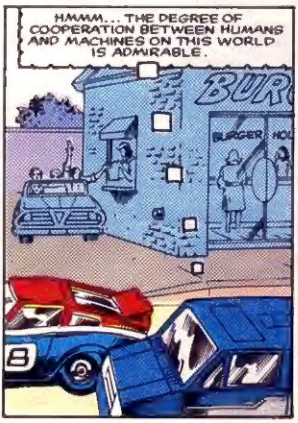

WE'VE BEEN RUSTING TOO LONG IN THIS PIT...
...BUT APPARENTLY SHOCKWAVE...

...HAS NOT!
AFTER MEGATRON TRANSFORMS TO HIS GUN MODE AND FRENZY, LASERBEAK, RUMBLE AND BUZZSAW TRANSFORM TO THEIR TAPE CASSETTE MODES, THEY BOARD THE THREE DECEPTICON JETS...

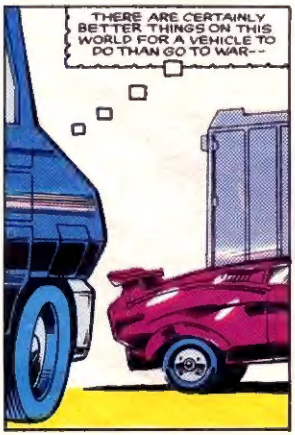
...AND ARE LAUNCHED INTO THE WESTERN SKY.


LATER, SOMEWHERE IN WYOMING...
AUTOBOTS, WE ARE ENTERING A HUMAN SETTLEMENT. WE MUST NOT AROUSE SUSPICIONS.
COMMUNICATE ONLY BY INTERAUTOBOT RADIO, SHIELD AUTOBOT SYMBOLS AND ACTIVATE FACSIMILE CIRCUITS SO IT APPEARS WE HAVE HUMAN DRIVERS.
CHECK, OPTIMUS!
CHECK!
CHECK!
CHECK!
CHECK!
CHECK!
SKIDS?
BUMBLEBEE?
GRAPPLE?
WHEELJACK?
HOIST?
TRACKS?
SMOKESCREEN?
SKIDS?

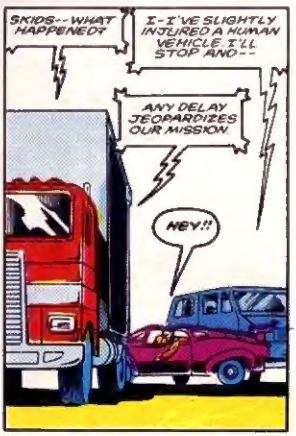
OH, UH... CHECK, OPTIMUS. CHECK!
OOPS, BETTER TURN OFF THE MUSIC AND TUNE INTO OPTIMUS INSTEAD! ALMOST FORGOT TO ACTIVATE MY FACSIMILE CIRCUITRY!
POP


HMMM... THE DEGREE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN HUMANS AND MACHINES ON THIS WORLD IS ADMIRABLE.
BURGER

THAT LOOKS LIKE A PLEASANT WAY TO PASS THE DAY...


THERE ARE CERTAINLY BETTER THINGS ON THIS WORLD FOR A VEHICLE TO DO THAN GO TO WAR--

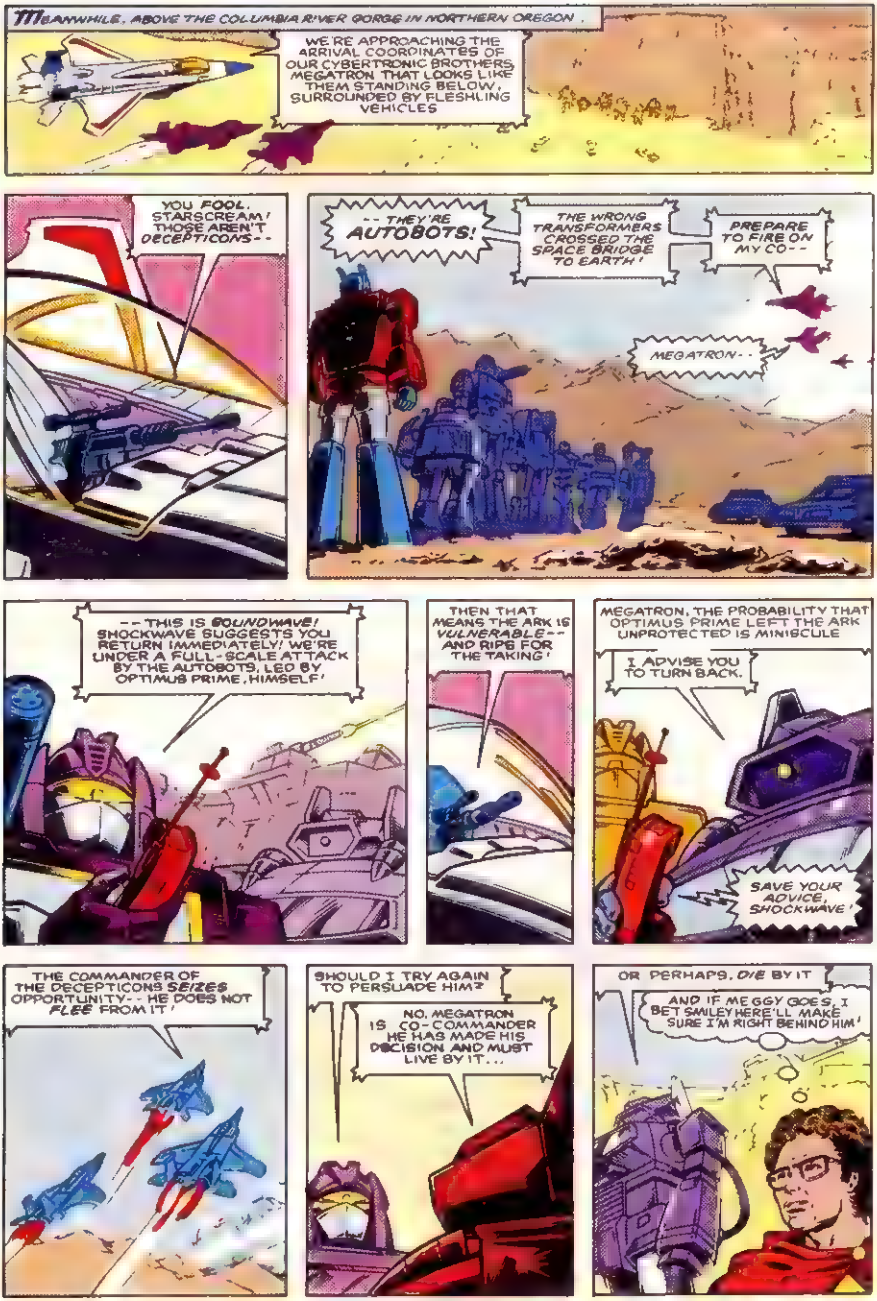
BUT...
KRUNCH
SCREECH

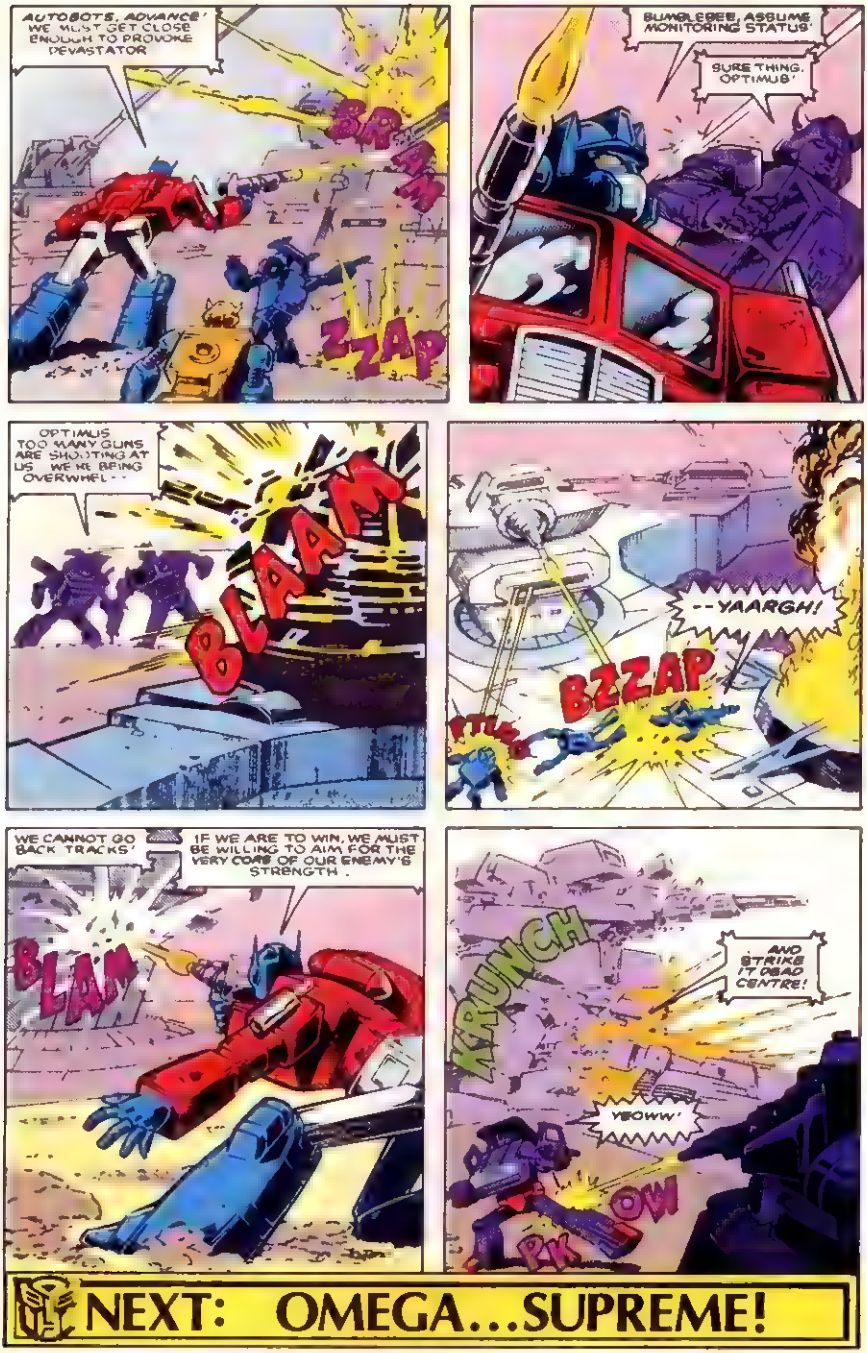

SKIDS--WHAT HAPPENED?
I--I'VE SLIGHTLY INJURED A HUMAN VEHICLE. I'LL STOP AND--
ANY DELAY JEOPARDIZES OUR MISSION
HEY!!

SKIDS--PROCEED!
UH, YES, COMMANDER...
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING, CREEP?! THAT WAS MY CAR YOU RAMMED!
HONEY, IT'S JUST A LITTLE SCRATCH.
I DON'T CARE IF ALL THAT GUY DID WAS LOOK CROSS-EYED AT MY BUMPER!
NO ONE SPITS DUST IN JAKE OALRYMPLE'S FACE--AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!
GET IN!
SEVERAL MILES AWAY...
STOP
A HUMAN MILITARY ENCAMPMENT BLOCKS OUR PATH TO THE DECEPTICON BASE!
A FACTOR I ANTICIPATED, BUMBLEBEE.
JETFIRE--ENACT PHASE "D" OF OUR PLAN.
I HEAR YOU, OPTIMUS.
VVRROOOM
HEY! WHERE'D HE COME FROM?!
STO
THIS ARE
THAT'S THE DISTRACTION WE NEED...
INTRUDER ALERT! GUARD UNIT SIX--ADVANCE!

HEY!
BKRAK
SO
THIS ARE LIMITS
HALT OR WE'LL SHOOT!
I'LL RADIO FOR BACK-UP--
WAIT A SECOND-- ANOTHER JOKER'S TRYING TO RUN OUR ROADBLOCK!
PUT IT IN PARK, BUDDY!
GET OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
YOUR FRIENDS'LL HAVE TO GO ON WITHOUT YOU!
F-FRIENDS?!
MINUTES LATER, SEVERAL MILES DOWN THE ROAD...
...THE AUTOBOTS ARRIVE AT THE DECEPTICON BASE...

...AND A WALL OF WEAPONS AUTOMATICALLY WHIRLS INTO POSITION AND LOCKS ONTO TARGETS.
AUTOBOTS TRANSFORM INTO WARRIOR MODE!
BZAPP
WE'RE GOING TO BE PULVERIZED IF WE STAY HERE!
OPTIMUS, YOU COULDN'T HAVE EXPECTED WE'D BE UP AGAINST FIREPOWER OF THIS MAGNITUDE!
I EXPECTED NO LESS FROM THE DECEPTICONS, SKIDS!
AUTOBOTS, ATTACK!
SPK OW
SPK AK


MEANWHILE, ABOVE THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE IN NORTHERN OREGON.
WE'RE APPROACHING THE ARRIVAL COORDINATES OF OUR CYBERTRONIC BROTHERS, MEGATRON. THAT LOOKS LIKE THEM STANDING BELOW, SURROUNDED BY FLESHLING VEHICLES.
YOU FOOL, STARSCREAM! THOSE AREN'T DECEPTICONS--
--THEY'RE AUTOBOTS!
THE WRONG TRANSFORMERS CROSSED THE SPACE BRIDGE TO EARTH!
PREPARE TO FIRE ON MY CO--
MEGATRON--
--THIS IS SOUNDWAVE! SHOCKWAVE SUGGESTS YOU RETURN IMMEDIATELY! WE'RE UNDER A FULL-SCALE ATTACK BY THE AUTOBOTS, LED BY OPTIMUS PRIME, HIMSELF!
THEN THAT MEANS THE ARK IS VULNERABLE-- AND RIPE FOR THE TAKING!
MEGATRON, THE PROBABILITY THAT OPTIMUS PRIME LEFT THE ARK UNPROTECTED IS MINISCULE
I ADVISE YOU TO TURN BACK.
SAVE YOUR ADVICE, SHOCKWAVE!
THE COMMANDER OF THE DECEPTICONS SEIZES OPPORTUNITY-- HE DOES NOT FLEE FROM IT!
SHOULD I TRY AGAIN TO PERSUADE HIM?
NO, MEGATRON IS CO-COMMANDER HE HAS MADE HIS DECISION AND MUST LIVE BY IT...
OR PERHAPS, DIE BY IT
AND IF MEGGY GOES, I BET SMILEY HERE'LL MAKE SURE I'M RIGHT BEHIND HIM!


AUTOBOTS, ADVANCE! WE MUST GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO PROVOKE DEVASTATOR
BRAM
ZZZAP
BUMBLEBEE, ASSUME MONITORING STATUS!
SURE THING, OPTIMUS!
OPTIMUS TOO MANY GUNS ARE SHOOTING AT US WE'RE BEING OVERWHEL--
BLAAM
--YAARGH!
BZZAP
WE CANNOT GO BACK TRACKS!
IF WE ARE TO WIN, WE MUST BE WILLING TO AIM FOR THE VERY CORE OF OUR ENEMY'S STRENGTH.
BLAM
KRUNCH
AND STRIKE IT DEAD CENTRE!
YEOWW!
OW
PK
NEXT: OMEGA...SUPREME!

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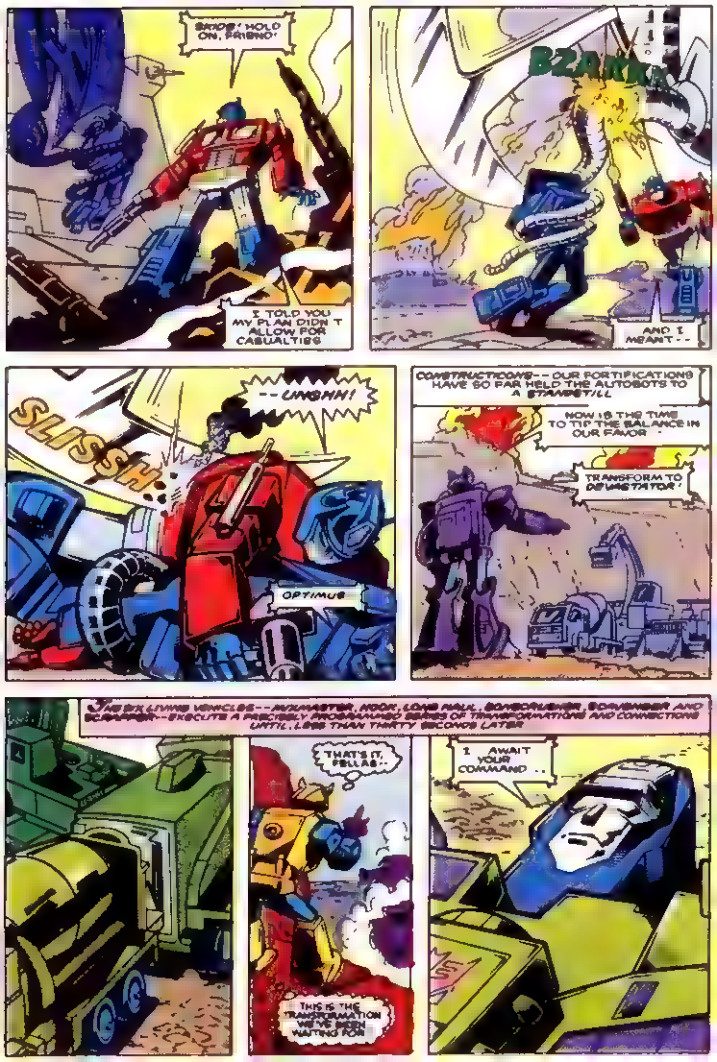
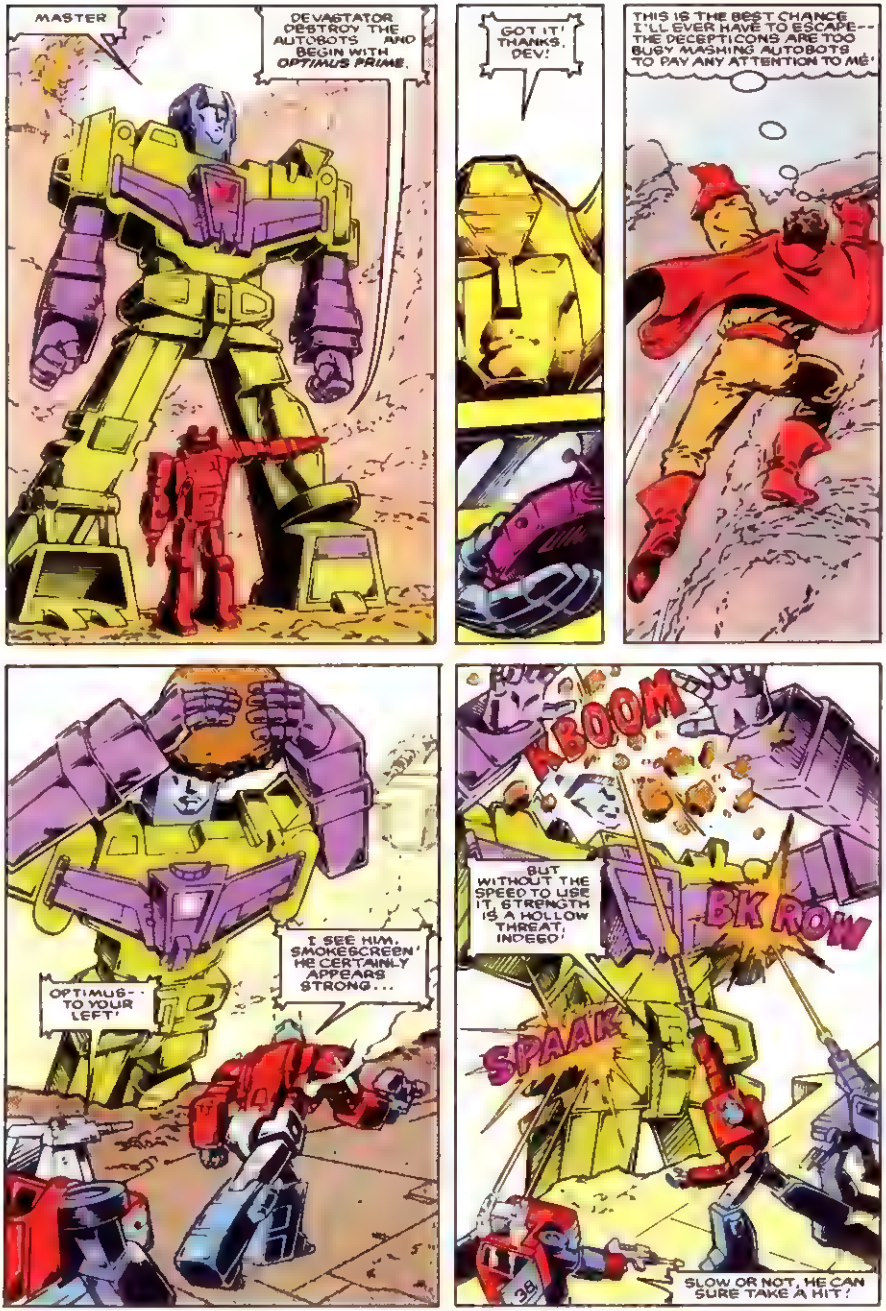
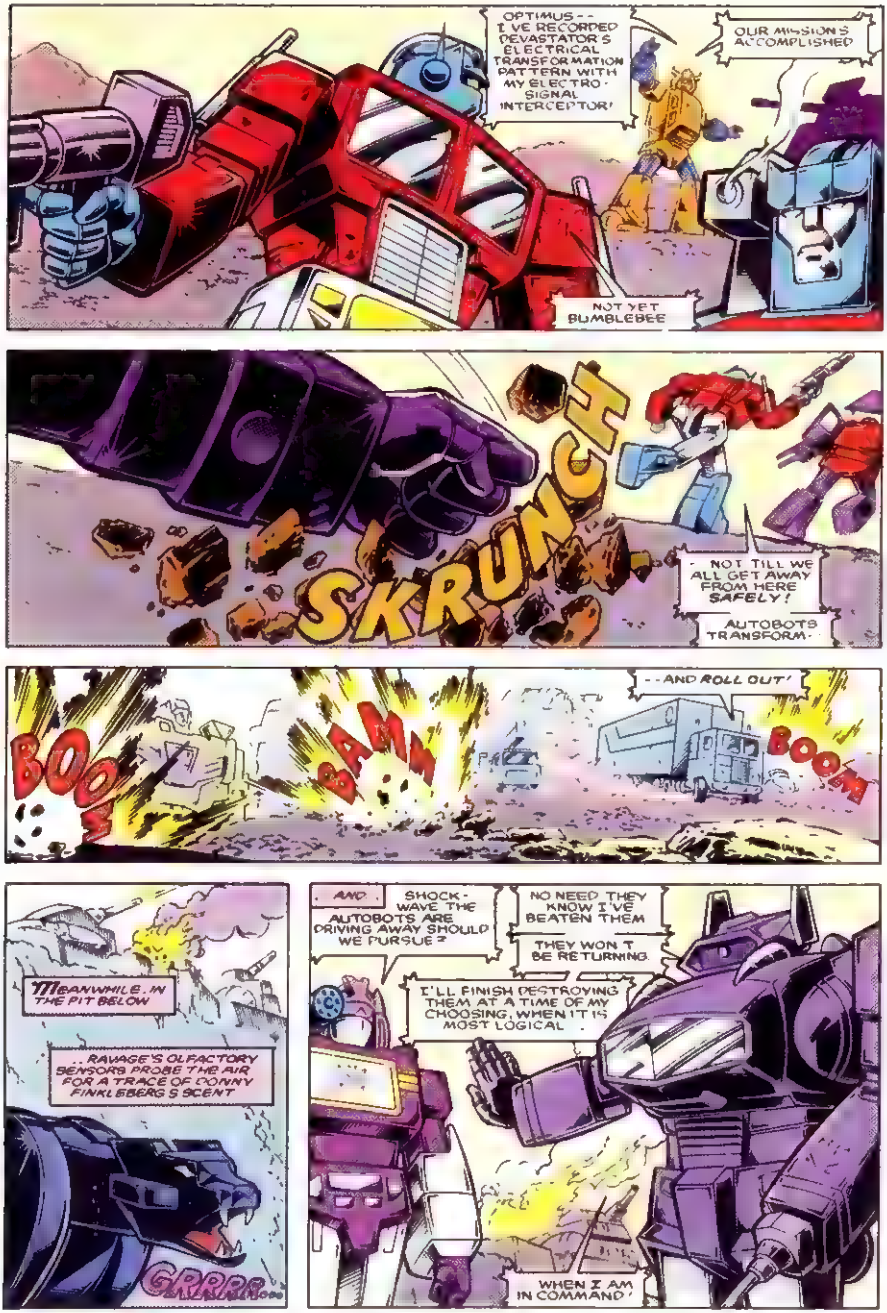
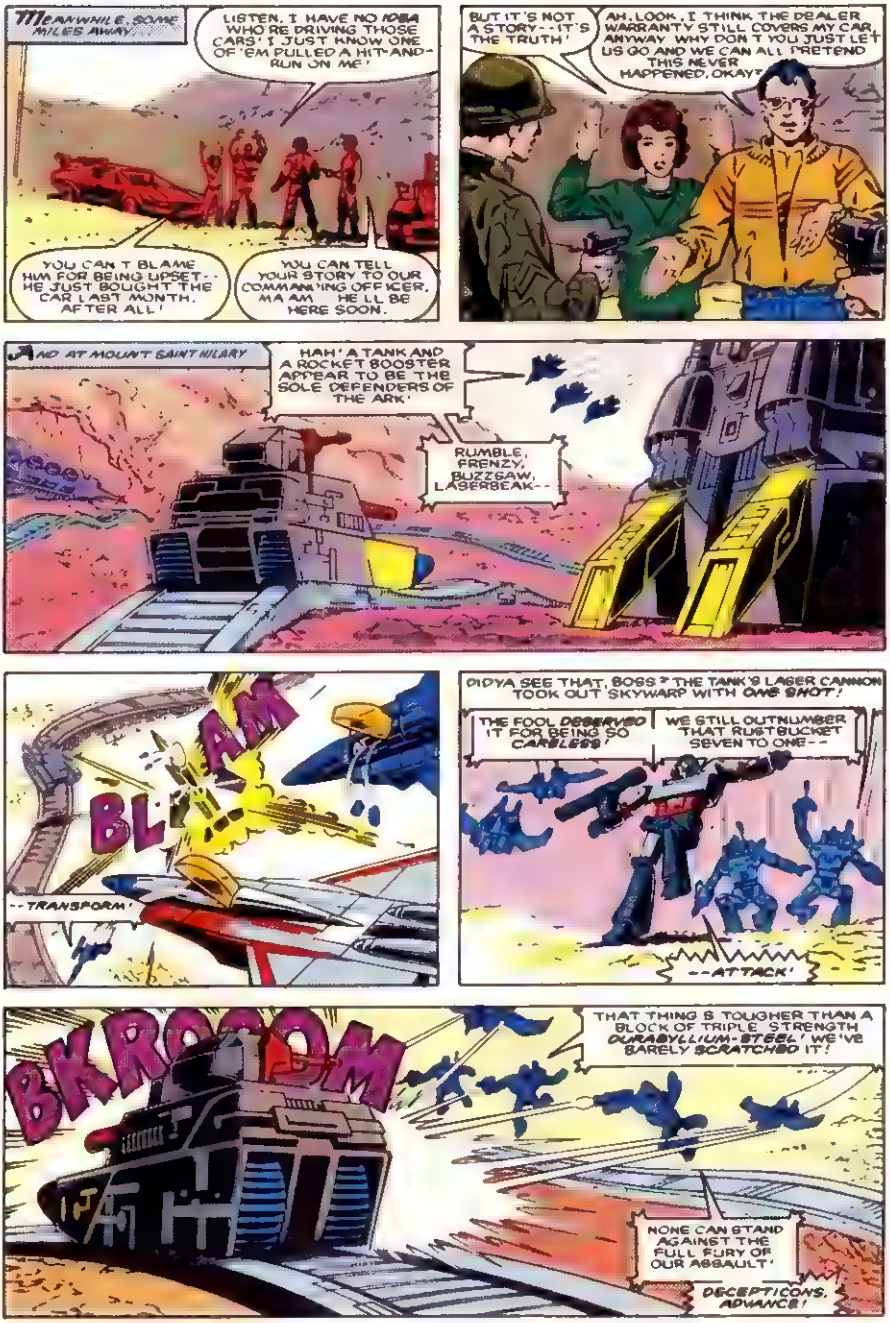
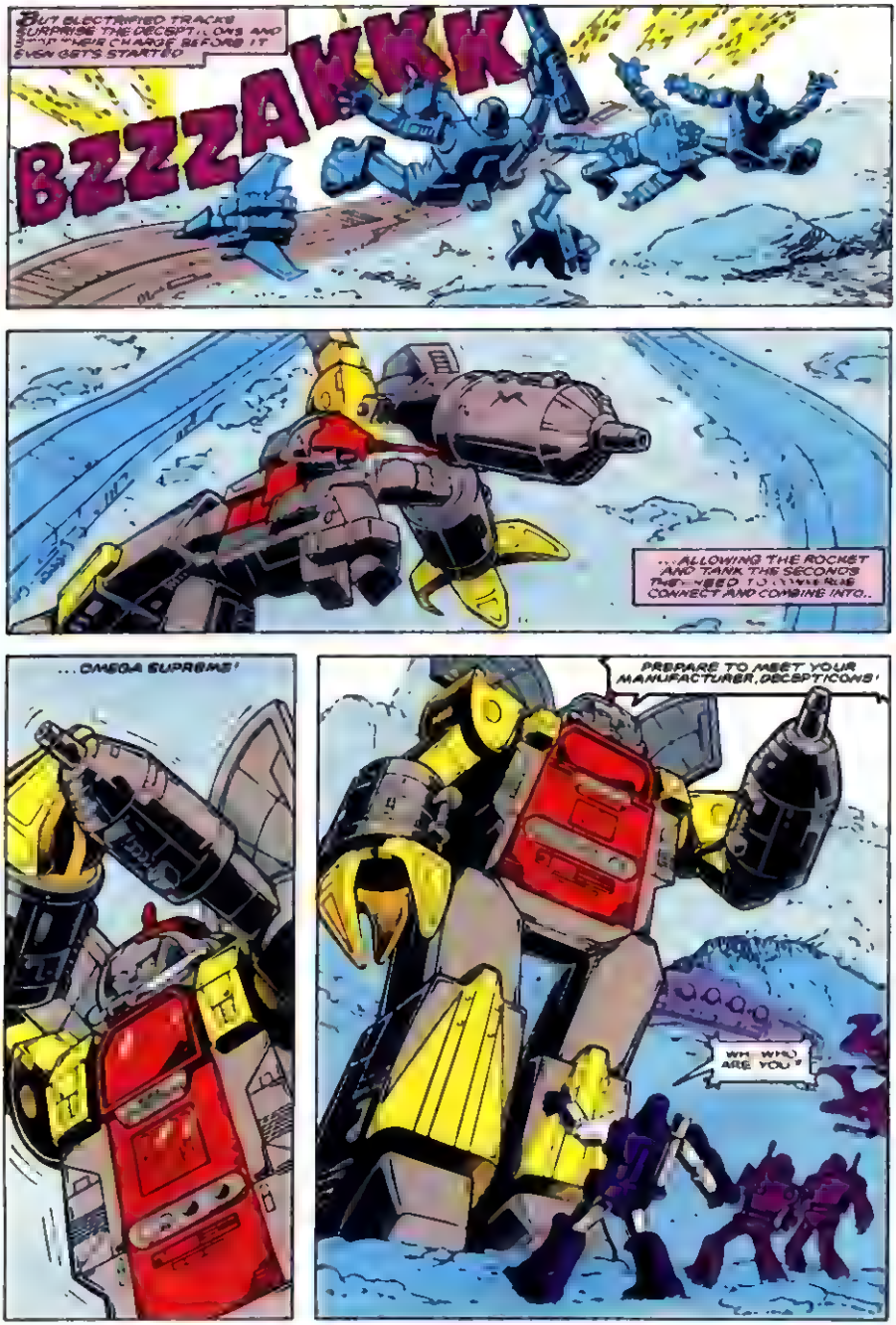
THE TRANSFORMERS™
HEROIC AUTOBOT
OMEGA...
SUPREME!

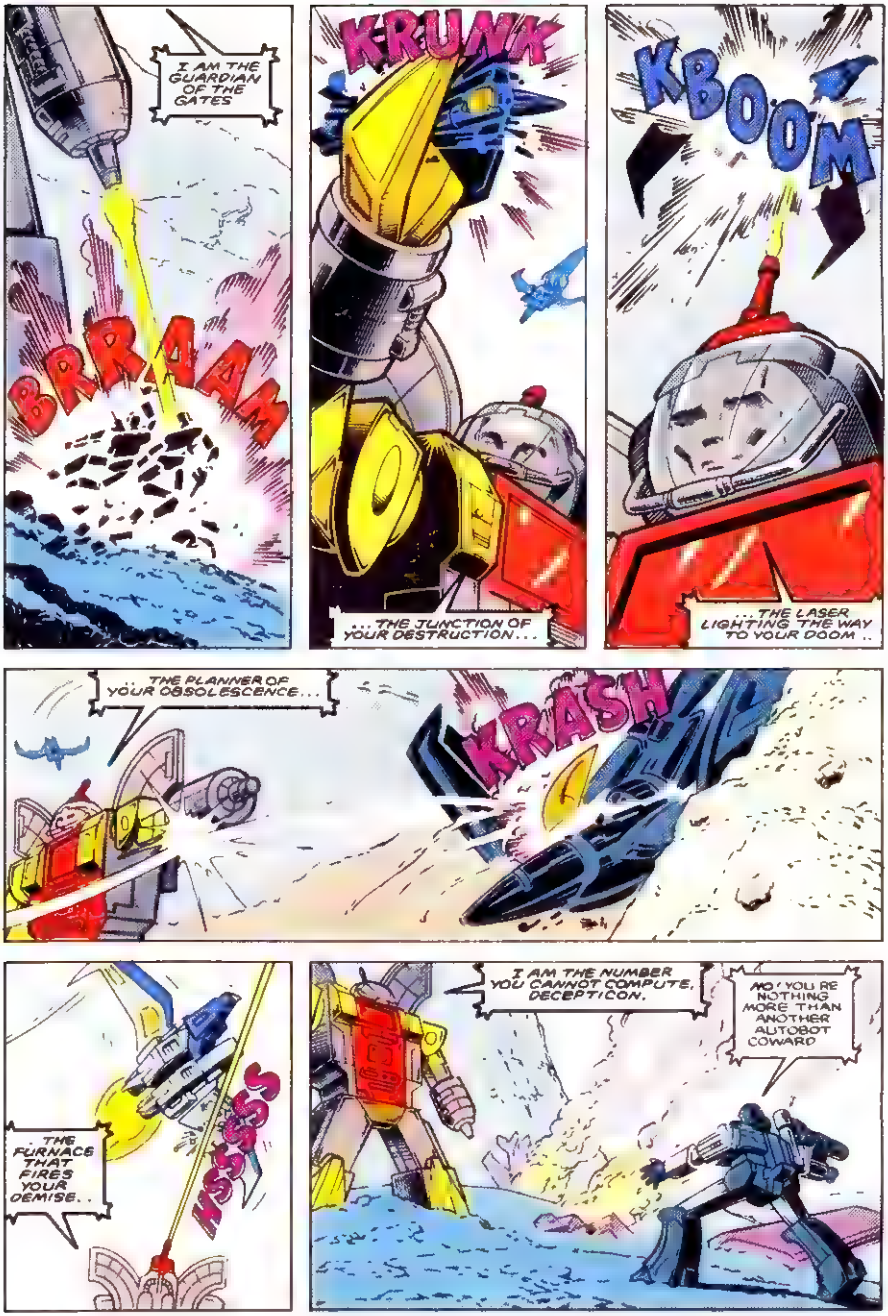

WHOA! HOLD ON, FRIEND!
I TOLD YOU MY PLAN DIDN'T ALLOW FOR CASUALTIES
BZZARK
AND I MEANT--
SLASSH
--UNGHH!
OPTIMUS
CONSTRUCTICONS--OUR FORTIFICATIONS HAVE SO FAR HELD THE AUTOBOTS TO A STANDSTILL
NOW IS THE TIME TO TIP THE BALANCE IN OUR FAVOR
TRANSFORM TO DEVASTATOR!
THE SIX LIVING VEHICLES--MIXMASTER, HOOK, LONG HAUL, SCAVENGER, SCAVENGER AND SCAVENGER--EXECUTE A PRECISELY PROGRAMMED SERIES OF TRANSFORMATIONS AND CONNECTIONS UNTIL, LESS THAN THIRTY SECONDS LATER
THAT'S IT, FELLAS..
THIS IS THE TRANSFORMATION WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR
I AWAIT YOUR COMMAND..

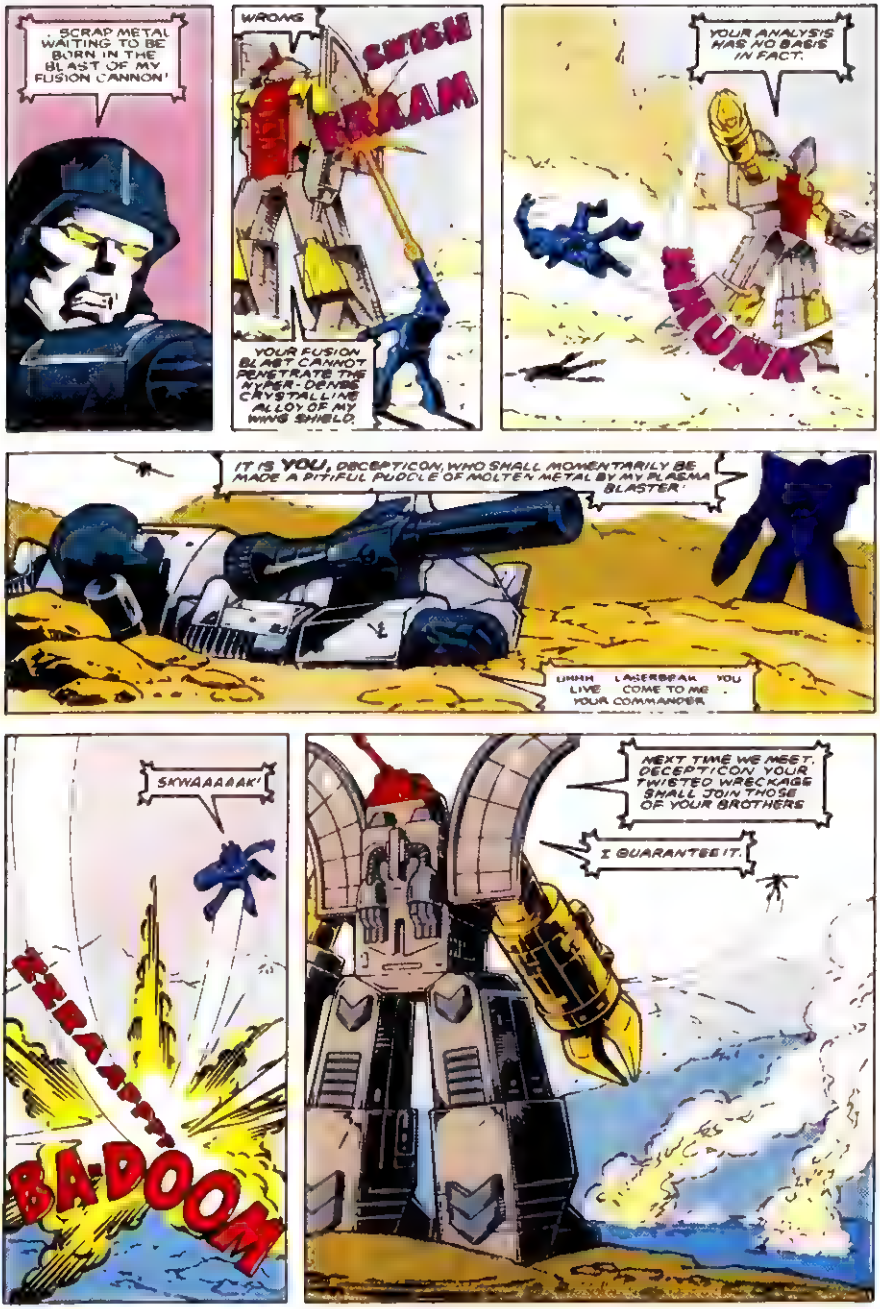

MASTER
DEVASTATOR DESTROY THE AUTOBOTS AND BEGIN WITH OPTIMUS PRIME.
GOT IT! THANKS, DEV!
THIS IS THE BEST CHANCE I'LL EVER HAVE TO ESCAPE-- THE DECEPTICONS ARE TOO BUSY MASHING AUTOBOTS TO PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ME!
OPTIMUS-- TO YOUR LEFT!
I SEE HIM, SMOKESCREEN! HE CERTAINLY APPEARS STRONG...
KROOM
BUT WITHOUT THE SPEED TO USE IT, STRENGTH IS A HOLLOW THREAT, INDEED!
BK ROW
SPAAK
SLOW OR NOT, HE CAN SURE TAKE A HIT!


OPTIMUS -- I'VE RECORDED DEVASTATOR'S ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMATION PATTERN WITH MY ELECTRO-SIGNAL INTERCEPTOR!
OUR MISSION'S ACCOMPLISHED
NOT YET BUMBLEBEE
SKRUNCH
- NOT TILL WE ALL GET AWAY FROM HERE SAFELY!
AUTOBOTS TRANSFORM-
BOOM
BAM
- - AND ROLL OUT!
BOOM
MEANWHILE, IN THE PIT BELOW
. . RAVAGE'S OLFACTORY SENSORS PROBE THE AIR FOR A TRACE OF DONNY FINKLEBERG'S SCENT
GRRRR
. . AND . . SHOCK-WAVE THE AUTOBOTS ARE DRIVING AWAY SHOULD WE PURSUE?
NO NEED THEY KNOW I'VE BEATEN THEM
THEY WON'T BE RETURNING
I'LL FINISH DESTROYING THEM AT A TIME OF MY CHOOSING, WHEN IT IS MOST LOGICAL .
WHEN I AM IN COMMAND!

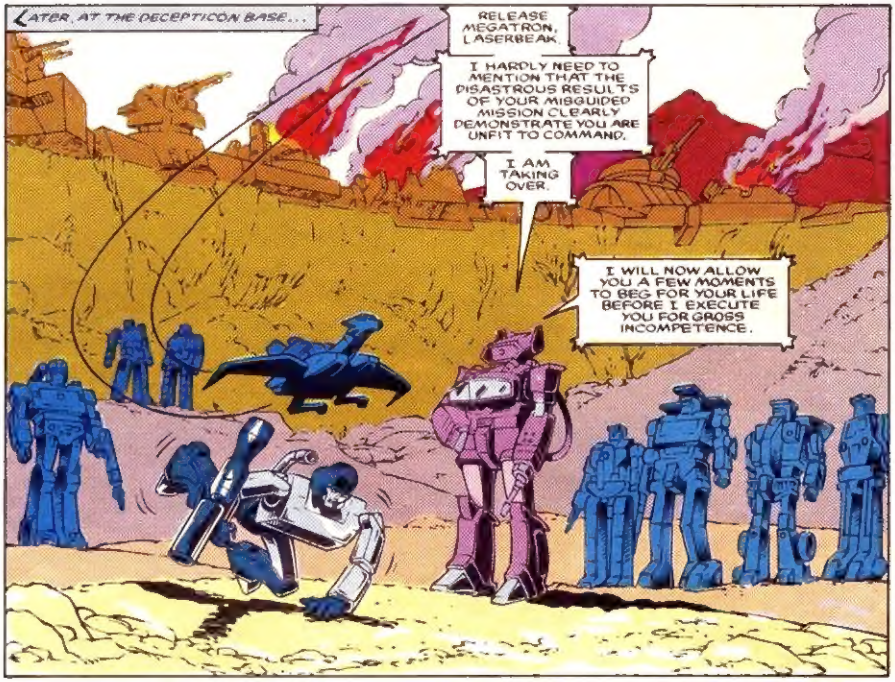

MEANWHILE, SOME MILES AWAY...
LISTEN, I HAVE NO IDEA WHO'RE DRIVING THOSE CARS! I JUST KNOW ONE OF 'EM PULLED A HIT-AND-RUN ON ME!
YOU CAN'T BLAME HIM FOR BEING UPSET--HE JUST BOUGHT THE CAR LAST MONTH, AFTER ALL!
YOU CAN TELL YOUR STORY TO OUR COMMANDING OFFICER, MA'AM. HE'LL BE HERE SOON.
BUT IT'S NOT A STORY--IT'S THE TRUTH!
AH, LOOK, I THINK THE DEALER WARRANTY STILL COVERS MY CAR, ANYWAY. WHY DON'T YOU JUST LET US GO AND WE CAN ALL PRETEND THIS NEVER HAPPENED, OKAY?
AND AT MOUNT SAINT HILARY
HAH! A TANK AND A ROCKET BOOSTER APPEAR TO BE THE SOLE DEFENDERS OF THE ARK!
RUMBLE, FRENZY, BUZZSAW, LASERBEAK--
BL AM
--TRANSFORM!
DIDYA SEE THAT, BOSS? THE TANK'S LASER CANNON TOOK OUT SKYWARP WITH ONE SHOT!
THE FOOL OBSERVED IT FOR BEING SO CARELESS!
WE STILL OUTNUMBER THAT RUSTBUCKET SEVEN TO ONE--
--ATTACK!
BKROOOM
THAT THING'S TOUGHER THAN A BLOCK OF TRIPLE STRENGTH QUARRELLIUM-STEEL! WE'VE BARELY SCRATCHED IT!
NONE CAN STAND AGAINST THE FULL FURY OF OUR ASSAULT!
DECEPTICONS, ADVANCE!


BUT ELECTRIFIED TRACKS SURPRISE THE DECEPTICONS AND SHUT THEIR CHARGE BEFORE IT EVEN GETS STARTED
BZZZAKKK
...ALLOWING THE ROCKET AND TANK THE SECONDS THEY NEED TO ACTIVATE AND CONNECT AND COMBINE INTO..
...OMEGA SUPREME!
PREPARE TO MEET YOUR MANUFACTURER, DECEPTICONS!
WH- WHO ARE YOU?

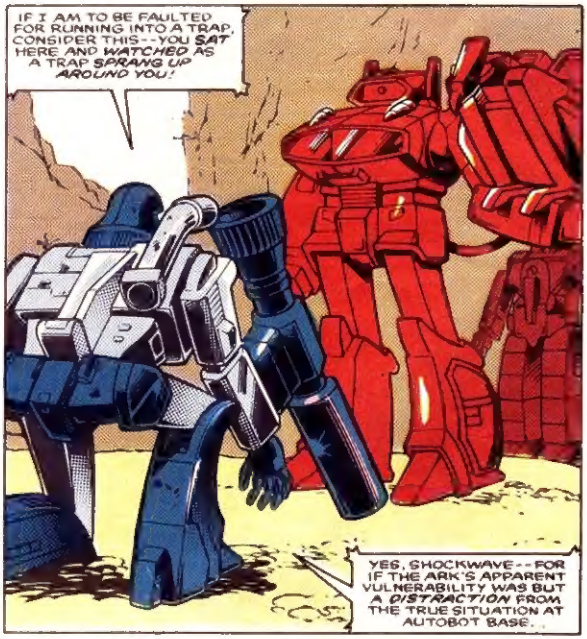

I AM THE GUARDIAN OF THE GATES
BRRRAAM
K-RUNK
... THE JUNCTION OF YOUR DESTRUCTION...
KBOOM
... THE LASER LIGHTING THE WAY TO YOUR DOOM ..
THE PLANNER OF YOUR OBSOLESCENCE...
KRASH
... THE FURNACE THAT FIRES YOUR DEMISE..
SSSSSSH
I AM THE NUMBER YOU CANNOT COMPUTE, DECEPTICON.
NO! YOU'RE NOTHING MORE THAN ANOTHER AUTOBOT COWARD

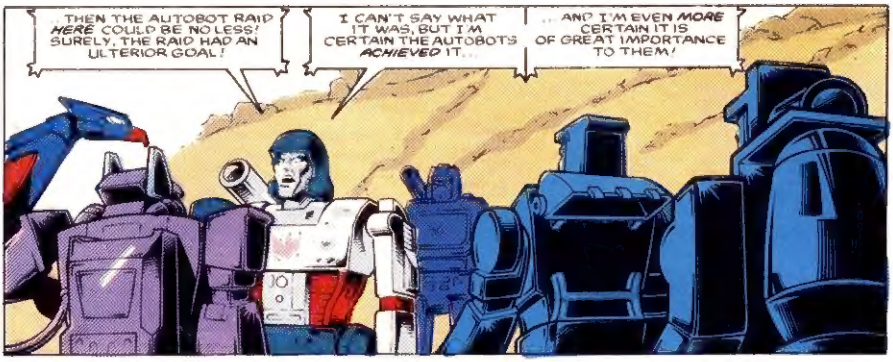

SCRAP METAL WAITING TO BE BURN IN THE BLAST OF MY FUSION CANNON!
WRONG
SWISH
KRAAM
YOUR FUSION BLAST CANNOT PENETRATE THE HYPER-DENSE CRYSTALLINE ALLOY OF MY WING SHIELD.
YOUR ANALYSIS HAS NO BASIS IN FACT.
KHUNK
IT IS YOU, DECEPTICON, WHO SHALL MOMENTARILY BE MADE A PITIFUL PUDDLE OF MOLTEN METAL BY MY PLASMA BLASTER!
UHHH LASERBEAK YOU LIVE COME TO ME YOUR COMMANDER
SKYAAAAAK!
KRAAPPP
BA-DOOM
NEXT TIME WE MEET, DECEPTICON, YOUR TWISTED WRECKAGE SHALL JOIN THOSE OF YOUR BROTHERS
I GUARANTEE IT.

OPTIMUS PRIME, THIS IS OMEGA SUPREME.
AS YOU ANTICIPATED, THE DECEPTICONS ASSUMED YOUR ABSENCE LEFT THE ARK UNPROTECTED AND LAUNCHED AN ATTACK.
THE ENEMY SUFFERED 75 PER CENT LOSSES.
WELL DONE, OMEGA SUPREME.
I...I APOLOGIZE, OPTIMUS... FOR DOUBTING YOU AND YOUR PLAN.
THE SUCCESS OF MY PLAN IS NOT YET FULLY PROVEN, SKIDS... AT LEAST NOT TILL WE GET HOME. WE CANNOT SLOW DOWN FOR A MOMENT.
MEANWHILE, WHILE TRACKING THE SCENT OF HIS HUMAN QUARRY, RAVAGE SPOTS THE AUTOBOT CONVOY... AND WAITS FOR HIS CHANCE...
LOOK! IT'S THE SAME GUYS WE SAW BEFORE--GOING THE OTHER WAY!
I ORDER YOU TO HALT!
HEY! THAT'S THE BUM WHO CLIPPED ME! STOP!
OH, NO! HE'S BLOCKING MY WAY!
SKREECH
MUST PULL OVER!
BUT SKIDS' LIFE-SAVING ACTION...
GIVES RAVAGE THE OPPORTUNITY HE NEEDS...
...TO LAUNCH A LOW-ENERGY PROTON MISSILE.
BAROOM
HUH?!
OPTIMUS PRIME KNOWS ANY DETOUR FOR THE SAKE OF HIS FALLEN FRIEND ENDANGERS THE ENTIRE MISSION.
THE AUTOBOT CONVOY CONTINUES.

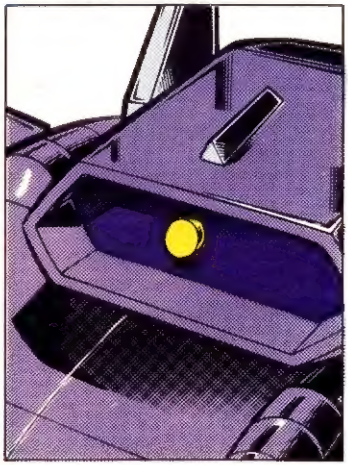

LATER, AT THE DECEPTICON BASE...
RELEASE MEGATRON, LASERBEAK.
I HARDLY NEED TO MENTION THAT THE DISASTROUS RESULTS OF YOUR MISGUIDED MISSION CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE YOU ARE UNFIT TO COMMAND.
I AM TAKING OVER.
I WILL NOW ALLOW YOU A FEW MOMENTS TO BEG FOR YOUR LIFE BEFORE I EXECUTE YOU FOR GROSS INCOMPETENCE.

BEG? IT IS YOU WHO SHOULD BEG ME, SHOCKWAVE -- FOR MY FORGIVENESS!

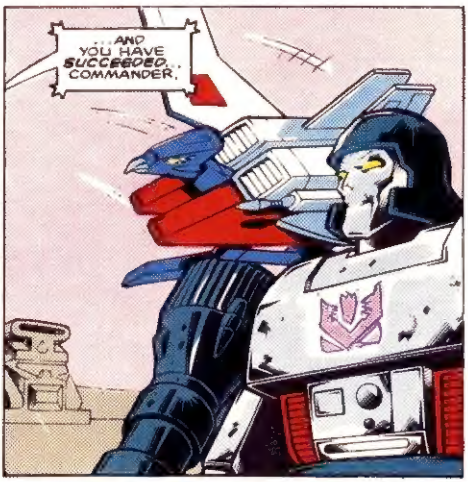

IF I AM TO BE FAULTED FOR RUNNING INTO A TRAP, CONSIDER THIS -- YOU SAT HERE AND WATCHED AS A TRAP SPRANG UP AROUND YOU!
YES, SHOCKWAVE -- FOR IF THE ARK'S APPARENT VULNERABILITY WAS BUT A DISTRACTION FROM THE TRUE SITUATION AT AUTOBOT BASE...

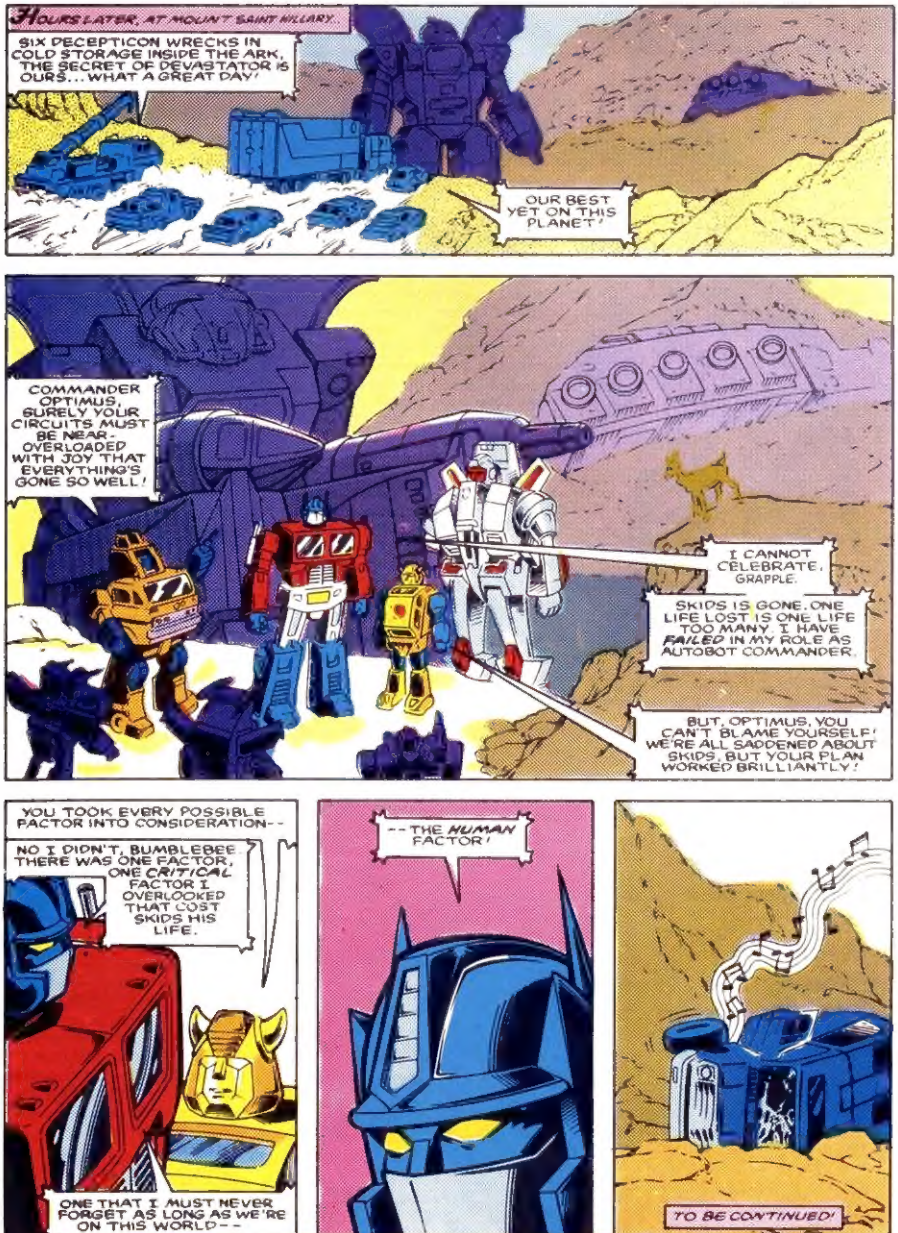

...THEN THE AUTOBOT RAID HERE COULD BE NO LESS! SURELY, THE RAID HAD AN ULTERIOR GOAL!
I CAN'T SAY WHAT IT WAS, BUT I'M CERTAIN THE AUTOBOTS ACHIEVED IT...
...AND I'M EVEN MORE CERTAIN IT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THEM!

AS FOR THE DECEPTICONS LOST TODAY--THEY MEAN NOTHING! THEY CAN BE REPLACED!
BUT AT LEAST THE AUTOBOTS NOW KNOW THEY CAN NEVER HAVE A MOMENT'S REST AS LONG AS WE ARE HERE TO STRIKE AT THEM AT ANY TIME!



YOUR ARGUMENT IS SOUND. I HAVE FAILED.


...AND YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED, COMMANDER.


HOURS LATER, AT MOUNT SAINT HILLARY.
SIX DECEPTICON WRECKS IN COLD STORAGE INSIDE THE ARK, THE SECRET OF DEVASTATOR IS OURS... WHAT A GREAT DAY!
OUR BEST YET ON THIS PLANET!
COMMANDER OPTIMUS, SURELY YOUR CIRCUITS MUST BE NEAR-OVERLOADED WITH JOY THAT EVERYTHING'S GONE SO WELL!
I CANNOT CELEBRATE, GRAPPLE.
SKIDS IS GONE. ONE LIFE LOST IS ONE LIFE TOO MANY. I HAVE FAILED IN MY ROLE AS AUTOBOT COMMANDER.
BUT, OPTIMUS, YOU CAN'T BLAME YOURSELF! WE'RE ALL SADDENED ABOUT SKIDS, BUT YOUR PLAN WORKED BRILLIANTLY!
YOU TOOK EVERY POSSIBLE FACTOR INTO CONSIDERATION--
NO I DIDN'T, BUMBLEBEE THERE WAS ONE FACTOR, ONE CRITICAL FACTOR I OVERLOOKED THAT COST SKIDS HIS LIFE.
ONE THAT I MUST NEVER FORGET AS LONG AS WE'RE ON THIS WORLD--
--THE HUMAN FACTOR!
TO BE CONTINUED!
NEXT SHOWDOWN!